

STATE OF MAINE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR 1 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001

4 April 2013

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine State House Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 272, "An Act To Reduce Youth Cancer Risk."

This bill does one thing: it tells Maine parents that Augusta knows better than they do when it comes to their children. Instead of the current law that requires parents to give permission to their children tanning, this says that children are banned from it, regardless of what the parent thinks. This is government run amok – Maine parents can make the right decisions for their families.

Additionally, this bill does not stop teenagers from lying in the sun or spending hours in privately owned tanning beds that people may have in their homes. While people may pass laws and then pat themselves on the back, the reality is this bill does not truly address the issue it claims to solve. That is why the proper solution is leaving this decision in the hands of parents.

For these reasons, I return LD 272 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage

Governor

